

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1806**

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro:

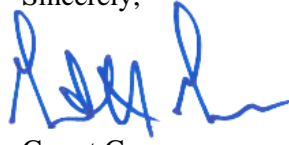
I am requesting funding for the City of Central Stormwater System Improvements in Fiscal Year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is the City of Central, located at 13421 Hooper Road, Suite 8, Central, LA 70818. The funding would be used to meet the goals of the Clean Water Act by improving critical junctures within the stormwater system of the City of Central. Due to the regularity—and severity—of significant weather events in Louisiana, our stormwater systems are crucial in protecting the health and safety of our constituents and the quality of our waterways.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it will improve the ability of the City's water system to manage and reduce a heightened volume of water during a storm. Without improved management, these systems become overloaded and backed up – resulting in standing water that threatens constituent safety, the longevity of water infrastructure, and collects pollutants. Allowing stormwater to flow more efficiently through the system will relieve these hazards to constituents and meet the goals of the Clean Water Act by keeping our waterways flowing and clean. Furthermore, it will reduce maintenance costs from stream degradation, and improve the flow of water through the City, which will save taxpayers money in the long-term.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized by Title VI of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C 1381 et seq.. This statute authorizes grants for the purposes of the Clean Water Act by providing assistance for projects identified in section 603(c) (33 U.S.C. §1383(c)). Section 603(c)(5) specifies projects “for measures to manage, reduce, treat, or recapture stormwater or subsurface drainage water[.]” This project will improve the stormwater system of the City of Central by upgrading roadway cross drains identified as deficient based on the criteria set in the City's 2019 Drainage Master Plan and meet the standards of the Clean Water Act.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Garret Graves', with a stylized, cursive script.

Garret Graves  
Member of Congress